## CLAIMS

1. A canine CD20 protein having an amino acid sequence according to SEQ ID NO: 1.

2. A protein having a homology of 70% or higher with an amino acid sequence according to SEQ ID NO: 1.

3. A protein having a homology of 80% or higher with an amino acid sequence according to SEQ ID NO: 1.

4. A DNA encoding canine CD20 according to SEQ ID NO: 2.

5. A polynucleotide having a homology of 70% or higher with a DNA sequence according to SEQ ID NO: 2.

6. A polynucleotide having a homology of 80% or higher with a DNA sequence according to SEQ ID NO: 2.

7. An RNA encoding canine CD20 according to SEQ ID NO: 3.

8. A polynucleotide having a homology of 70% or higher with an RNA sequence according to SEQ ID NO: 3.

9. A polynucleotide having a homology of 80% or higher with an RNA sequence according to SEQ ID NO: 3.

10. A plasmid vector comprising a canine CD20 gene fragment according to Claim 4.

11. A plasmid vector comprising a polynucleotide according to Claim 5 or 6.

12. A plasmid vector comprising a canine CD20 gene fragment according to Claim 7.

13. A plasmid vector comprising a polynucleotide according to Claim 8 or 9.

14. A transformant comprising a plasmid vector according to Claim 10 or 11.

15. A transformant comprising a plasmid vector according to Claim 12 or 13.

16. A primer according to SEQ ID NO:19 for amplifying canine CD20 gene or a fragment thereof.

17. A primer according to SEQ ID NO: 20 for amplifying canine CD20 gene or a fragment thereof.

18. A method of diagnosing canine malignant lymphoma by amplifying canine CD20 gene or a fragment thereof to examine expression of the canine CD20 gene using a primer according to Claim 16 or 17.